

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-13 (cancelled)

14. (currently amended) A method for clamping comprising steps of:
providing a clamp having an inverted spring portion and a plurality of tabs about a circumference thereof; and
supplying a clamping force to the inverted spring portion to snap fit the inverted spring portion into a groove of a clamping interface and align tabs relative to a flange of the clamping interface.
15. (currently amended) The method of claim 14 wherein the inverted spring portion and the plurality of tabs are is formed on an inner portion of the clamp and comprising the step of:
biasing the inner portion of the clamp to snap fit the inverted spring portion into the groove and align the tabs relative to the flange.
16. (currently amended) The method of claim 14 wherein the clamping interface includes a spindle portion rotatable relative to a hub and comprising the step of:
assembling at least one disc relative to the spindle portion; and prior to supplying the clamping force to install the clamp force to the inverted spring portion to snap fit the inverted spring portion and tabs into the groove of the spindle assembly with the tabs abutting the flange of the spindle assembly.
17. (withdrawn) The method of claim 15 and further comprising the step of:
engaging the inner portion of the clamp through a slot between flange segments of the flange clamping interface to remove the clamp.

18. (currently amended-withdrawn) ~~A~~The method of claim 16 and comprising~~for removing a clamp engaged relative to a flange comprising the steps of:~~

aligning a tool relative to a slot between flange segments of the spindle
portion~~flange~~; and

engaging a portion of the clamp with the tool through the slot to remove the
clamp.

19. (currently amended - withdrawn) The method of claim 18 wherein the clamp includes a plurality of tabs and the step of engaging a portion of the clamp with the tool engages at least one of the plurality of tabs .

20. (currently amended-withdrawn) The method of claim 19 wherein the plurality of tabs are coupled to an inverted spring portion seated in ~~an inner~~the groove of a the clamping interface and the step of engaging engages ~~the portion of~~ the clamp to snap the inverted spring portion out of the ~~inner~~ groove of the clamping interface.

21. (new) The method of claim 14 and comprising:

supplying an outward force to an inner portion of the clamp prior to supplying the
clamping force to install the clamp over a flange of the clamping interface.

22. (new) The method of claim 14 and comprising :

engaging an inner portion and an outer portion of the clamp; and

positioning the clamp proximate to the clamping interface prior to supplying the
clamping force to snap fit the inverted spring portion into the groove of the
clamping interface.

23. (new) The method of claim 14 and comprising:

engaging an inner portion of the clamp along a sloped surface of an assembly tool
to bias the inverted spring portion of the clamp outwardly prior to
supplying the clamping force.

24.(new) The method of claim 23 and further comprising moving the assembly tool toward the
clamping interface prior to supplying the clamping force.

25. (new) The method of claim 24 wherein the clamp includes a plurality of tabs spaced about an
inner circumference of the clamp and the assembly tool engages one or more of the plurality of
tabs to bias the inverted spring portion of the clamp out
wardly to install the clamp over a flange of the clamping interface.

26. (new) The method of claim 22 wherein the clamping force is supplied while inner and outer
tools engage the inner and outer portions of the clamp.

27. (new) The method of claim 22 wherein the clamping interface is formed on a spindle
assembly and comprising:

loading one or more discs on the spindle assembly prior to supplying the clamping
force to install the clamp.

28. (new) A method comprising:

engaging an inner portion and an outer portion of a disc clamp;
positioning the disc clamp proximate to a spindle assembly; and
supplying a clamping force to the disc clamp along an inverted portion of the disc
clamp spaced from inner and outer edges of the disc clamp to install the
inverted portion of the disc clamp into a recessed groove of the spindle
assembly.

29. (new) The method of claim 28 and comprising:

supplying an outward force to the inner portion of the disc clamp prior to supplying the clamping force.

30. (new) The method of claim 29 wherein the outward force is supplied via an assembly tool and the outward force is released following application of the clamping force so that the disc clamp engages or abuts a flange of the spindle assembly.

31. (new) The method of claim 28 comprising:

installing one or more discs on the spindle assembly prior to supplying the clamping force.

32. (new) A method comprising:

inserting an assembly tool into an inner portion of a clamp and engaging the clamp along a sloped surface of the assembly tool to supply an outward force to the clamp so that the clamp fits over a flange on a spindle assembly; and

applying a force to the clamp spaced from the inner portion of the clamp to release the clamp from the assembly tool to snap fit the clamp into a groove of the spindle assembly.

33. (new) The method of claim 32 and comprising:

assembling at least one disc on a ledge surface of the spindle assembly; and snap fitting the clamp into the groove of the spindle assembly having a surface recessed below the ledge surface of the spindle assembly.